



1389-1

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Selectmen, Treasurer,

AND

BOARD OF EDUCATION,

OF THE

TOWN OF LITCHFIELD,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1891.

MANCHESTER, N. H. :

A. S. CAMPBELL & Co., PRINTERS,

1891.

149586

352,074-26
L71

ANNUAL REPORTS

1891-1914

OF THE

Selectmen, Treasurer,

AND

BOARD OF EDUCATION,

OF THE

TOWN OF LITCHFIELD,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1891.

MANCHESTER, N. H. :
A. S. CAMPBELL & Co., PRINTERS,
1891.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Paid state tax,	\$770 00	
County tax,	558 76	
	<hr/>	\$1,328 76

ORDERS DRAWN ON THE TREASURER. SCHOOLS.

Paid Litchfield School Board	\$586 08	
Mary W. Griffin, books and stationery for schools,	60 80	
A. H. Powers, books and stationery for schools,	12 15	
	<hr/>	\$659 03

TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid Isaac N. Center, Town Clerk,	\$12 00	
Norris C. Griffin, treasurer,	10 00	
John W. Center, selectman,	28 00	
Walter E. McQuesten, selectman,	25 00	
Elbridge Pike, selectman,	20 00	
Fred McQuesten, collector,	30 00	
George C. Danforth, supervisor,	6 00	
Fred McQuesten, supervisor,	5 00	
John T. Lydston, supervisor,	4 00	
Mary W. Griffin, school board,	15 00	
A. H. Powers, school board,	10 00	
John Parker, school board,	5 00	
	<hr/>	\$170 00

PAUPERS.

Paid Frank Kendall, groceries supplied	
James Trask,	9 75
Frank Kendall, groceries supplied	
L. C. Truell,	14 03
Walter E. McQuesten, wood supplied	
L. C. Truell,	1 75
Daniel McQuesten, wood supplied	
L. C. Truell,	1 50
John T. Lydston, cutting wood supplied	
L. C. Truell,	1 25
C. H. Hopkins, sawing wood supplied	
L. C. Truell,	75
John Parker, meat supplied	
L. C. Truell,	39

 \$29 42
HIGHWAY BILLS.

Paid Charles W. Barnes, labor,	20 25
J. A. Marsh, labor,	25
Thomas McQuesten, labor,	60
Robert McQuesten, labor,	38
John L. Senter, labor,	5 68
A. H. Powers, labor,	1 11
S. D. Greeley, labor,	84
A. P. Keyes, clay,	4 98
L. C. Truell, labor,	1 50

 \$35 59 37.09
NEW CUTLER HIGHWAY.

Paid Parker B. Annis, labor,	\$57 40
George A. Annis, labor,	61 00
Matthew M. Campbell, labor,	58 50
Cosmo L. Adams, labor,	34 50
Norris C. Griffin, labor and plow,	36 00
Lorenzo Hardy, labor,	21 45

Paid George Lezott, labor,	4 87
Henry Patten, labor and board,	24 00
James Millette, labor,	1 25
Thomas Page, labor,	8 70
John B. Marshall, stone,	1 50
Napoleon Clement, labor,	1 25
George Corliss, labor,	4 50
George W. Barnes, labor,	2 25
Al Hazelton, labor,	4 58
— Searles, labor,	2 40
Frank S. Bancroft, labor,	6 60
John Barrett, stone,	10 00
David O. Marshall, labor,	3 15
William P. Annis, road machine,	12 00
Frank Kendall, spikes,	15
County Commissioners, services,	142 13
D. O. Marshall, land damages,	364 85
Heirs Warren Hill, land damages,	26 00
John L. Senter,	115 00
—————	\$1,004 03

SUNDRY BILLS.

Paid Campbell & Williams, printing reports,	\$14 40
L. C. Truell, labor in cemetary,	2 00
I. N. Center, labor in cemetary,	1 50
John W. Center, insuring town house,	12 00
McKean & Andrews, insuring school house,	6 00
Walter E. McQuesten, wood for hall, and sawing,	4 50
John W. Center, cleaning hall,	1 50
John W. Center, books and stationery,	2 00

Paid John W. Center, going to Concord to settle with state,	2 00
Fred McQuesten, David R. Leach place bid off by selectmen for taxes,	18 38
F. D. Cook & Company, shingles and saddle-boards for town house,	38 32
James B. Butterfield, shingling town house,	3 75
Walter E. McQuesten, drawing shingles and shingling town house,	5 75
Isaac N. Center, shingling town house,	3 00
Alexander Taggart, in settlement of cow case,	40 00
Thomas Page, damages to horse,	25 00
Charles H. McQuesten, damages to sleigh,	3 50
W. H. Putnam, damages to hens by dog,	2 00
W. W. Pillsbury, recording deaths and births,	1 75
Frank Kendall, nails for town house,	1 47
Walter E. McQuesten, chain and hooks for town house,	45
Isaac N. Center, sexton,	14 00
Isaac N. Center, recording deaths etc.,	2 10
Fred McQuesten, abatement of L. C. Truell's tax,	40
Fred McQuesten, abatement of Mrs. L. C. Truell's tax,	24

Paid Fred McQuesten, abatement of		
Fred Putnam's tax,	40	
Fred McQuesten, abatement of		
G. F. C. Trask's tax,	50	
Witnesses in Heath case,	31	27
George B. French, services in		
Heath case,	97	50
John W. Center, services in		
Heath and Taggart cases,	75	00
	<hr/>	\$410 68

RECAPITULATION.

Paid state tax,	770	00
County tax,	558	76
Schools,	659	03
Town officers,	170	00
Paupers,	29	42
Highway bills,	35	59
New Cutler highway,	1,004	03
Sundry bills,	410	68
	<hr/>	\$3,637 51

CASH RECEIVED.

Railroad tax,	98	81
Savings bank tax,	1,272	21
Literary Fund,	47	08
David R. Leach, shingles,	10	72
I. N. Center, rent of hall,	3	75
Amusement Association,	1	75
N. C. Griffin, non-resident highway		
tax, 1889,	1	73
N. C. Griffin, Treasurer, interest,	24	46
George E. Heath, costs in suit vs.		
town,	63	79
Fred McQuesten, collector 1890,	750	00

Balance due town March 1, 1890, 1,667 09

Whole amount received, \$3,941 39

Whole amount paid out, 3,637 51

\$303 88

Amount charged collector, 1890, \$1,027 73

Amount received of collector, 1890, 750 00

Due from collector, 1890, ————

\$277 73

Due from Hillsborough Co., \$29 42

David R. Leach Tax, 18 38

\$47 80

Total assets of town, \$629 41

N. C. GRIFFIN, *Treasurer*.

We, the Selectmen, have examined the above report of the Treasurer and find it a true report, to the best of our knowledge of the financial affairs of the town.

JOHN W. CENTER,

WALTER E. McQUESTEN.

BIRTHS

Registered in the town of Litchfield for the year ending December 31, 1890.

Date of Birth.	Place of Birth.	Name of the Child, (if any).	Sex and Condition.		Name of Father.	Maiden Name of Mother.	Color of Parents.	Residence of Parents.	Occupation of Father.	Birthplace of Father.	Birthplace of Mother.
			Male or Female.	Living or Stillborn.							
May 1...	Litchfield.	George ...	Male	Living	George Danforth		W	Litchfield.	Farmer	Litchfield	Litchfield
July 6...	Litchfield.	Lizzie Belle	Female	Living	Fred McQuesten	Eveline Lefavor	W	Litchfield.	Farmer	Litchfield	Litchfield
Oct. 19.	Litchfield.	...	Male	Living	Charles W. Leach	Lizzie E. March	W	Litchfield.	Farmer	Weare, N. H.	Litchfield

I hereby certify that the above return is correct, according to the best of my knowledge and belief.

ISAAC N. CENTER, *Town Clerk.*

MARRIAGES

Registered in the town of Litchfield for the year ending December 31, 1890.

Date of Marriage.	Place of Marriage	Name and Surname of Groom and Bride.	Residence of each at time of Marriage.	Age of each.	Color of each.	Occupation of Groom and Bride.	Widowed or single, Marriage, 1st, 2d, 3d etc.
February 13, '90	Nashua.	James Hopwood	Nashua	32	White	Carpenter	Single, 1st
		Mary C. Whittemore	Litchfield	21	White	Domestic	Single, 1st
June 18, '90	Litchfield.	James B. Butterfield	Litchfield	39	White	Railroad	Single, 1st
		Emma J. Hopkins	Litchfield	26	White	Domestic	Single, 1st

I hereby certify that the above return is correct, according to the best of my knowledge and belief
 ISAAC N. CENTER, *Town Clerk*,

DEATHS

Registered in the town of Litchfield for the year ending December 31, 1890.

Date of Place of Death.	Name and Surname of the Deceased.	Age.			Place of Birth.	Sex & Con.				Occupation.	Name of Father.	Maiden Name of Mother.	Disease or Cause of Death.
		Years.	Months.	Days.		Male.	Female.	Color.	Sin. or Wid.				
Jan. 20 Litchfield	Fannie Lyons	84	1	3	Litchfield	.....	.....	W.	W.	Matron	Timothy Kendall	Fannie Center	Bronchitis
Feb. 16 Concord	Sarah A. Adam	52	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	W.	W.	Matron	W. Goodspeed	Sarah Lund	Suicide, Insane
Feb. 1 Manchester	Betsy Butterfield	77	1	29	.....	.....	.....	W.	W.	Housewife	James Caldwell	.....	La Grippe
Mar. 10 Litchfield	Mary Adams	78	2	15	Litchfield	.....	.....	W.	W.	Housewife	John Tufts	.....	Paralysis
Apr. 17 Manchester	Thomas J. Tufts	86	2	18	.....	M	.....	W.	W.	.....	William Reid	.....	Heart Disease
May 13 Litchfield	John S. Reid	58	8	.....	Litchfield	.....	.....	W.	W.	Farmer	Thomas Taylor	Judith Little	Pneumonia
Aug. 10 Litchfield	Susan M. Hopkins	52	6	7	Reading, Mass.	.....	.....	W.	W.	Matron	William Smith	Susan Wheeler	Blood Poisoning
Aug. 26 Litchfield	Lucy Ann Saunders	58	4	25	Litchfield	.....	.....	W.	W.	Matron	.....	Betsey Dow	Paralysis
Sept. 16 Litchfield	Charles McQuesten	70	9	23	Litchfield	.....	.....	W.	W.	Farmer	Dan'l McQuesten	Alice Bryant	Heart Disease

I hereby certify that the above return is correct, according to the best of my knowledge and belief.

ISAAC N. CENTER, Town Clerk.

School Report,

The educators of to-day accept the fact that law obtains in the mental as well as the physical world. They are assured that there is a natural order of development of the mental faculties which cannot be ignored without detriment to the symmetry of the mental stature. This law of development calls for school work for small children which cultivates the perceptive faculties. Object lessons delight them because they call the senses into play. Numbers mean something to the child when the objects are handled which they represent. The memory is early active, and so impressible in youth that what is acquired before the age of 12 is rarely forgotten. Nature here plainly indicates the time to store the principles that should be inwrought in every character, and the season for the accumulation of useful facts pertaining to the world around us. The reasoning powers are exercised in the general mathematical work of the school; but as every citizen of a republic is presumed to be an independent thinker, with advanced pupils due prominence should be given to exercises that develop the power to think rationally. Trained to observe, to remember, to reason, the pupil is mentally well equipped for the battle of life; he has control of his powers, and the key to knowledge.

While much remains undone we feel that something has been accomplished in our schools the past few years in the matter of true education. The children that entered school for the first time five years ago have done good work and rank well. The older children have

gained in self-reliance. A question outside of the text-book no longer paralyzes them because so frequently introduced. Written reviews have made them more accurate scholars. The endeavor has been to strengthen weak points and advance as rapidly as seemed advisable. There are many things to be corrected before we can obtain the full return for the money expended, and among them the tardiness of pupils. Every pupil who is tardy not only loses valuable time, but disturbs the whole school. To avoid this loss as far as possible, teachers often make an allowance of five minutes for variations in timepieces. Standard time now being 15 minutes behind true time, the delay in opening the morning session is hardly called for. The parents can aid in putting whole schools upon the roll of honor. They will do so heartily when they realize the waste that tardiness and non-attendance entail.

PUNCTUALITY.

“Time once lost can never be regained.” and “I must be punctual,” are precepts posted in our schools. Are they there as ornaments, or are they there to teach the importance of punctuality and the value of time? Perhaps of all pernicious habits tardiness works the most injury to school affairs. Especially is this true when this fault is in the teacher. It in a great measure nullifies his official usefulness. His bad example is followed by the pupil, and it tends to form the habit of shiftlessness, unreliability, and finally confirmed neglect of business duty. If the teacher is tardy, the school will be tardy. If the teacher is punctual, the school will try to be punctual. For to a great degree, as the teacher is so the school will be. The teacher is the model for the pupil to follow, and if the model is a good one its influence is good. Tardiness on the part of the teacher seriously invalidates the school record. It is honey-combed with inaccuracy. The teacher should be at his post of duty by ten minutes of 9 o'clock in the morning, *standard time*. The pupil should be in his place, ready for work, at 9 o'clock. All pupils not present at that time should be marked tardy. Let the public school be

conducted on business principles, and the school work be characterized by intelligent method. Let the pupils be taught by example, as well as by precept, that the attendance on the school work is a business duty. Let them be impressed with the necessity of being on time, and prompt and business-like in the execution of every school duty. Much time, money, and opportunity will thus be saved. The learning of correct business habits comes through experience. The pupil learns to do by "conscious intelligent doing." He should be taught to do right because it is right, and that duty must not be delayed or set aside by convenience. A duty assumed should be conscientiously discharged, and nothing except inexorable necessity should prevent its accomplishment.

SCHOOL WORK.

As grave a fault as tardiness is considered, it is of minor importance compared with the ill effects of an undisciplined school. They are so far reaching we well might tremble for the perpetuity of our free institutions should the wholesome restraints of the well ordered public school be removed. Obedience is the basis of all true character building, and if our schools do not aid in laying broad and deep this foundation they fail of their highest use. It is the prerogative of the teacher to command, and enforce obedience. An orderly school and a perfectly quiet one are not synonymous expressions. Stillness may indicate apathy or mere repression, and neither is consonant with orderly development. The enthusiasm the magnetic teacher arouses will seek expression in sensuous form; and the instructor who has an opportunity to direct the effervescence of the buoyant student to some useful end has evidence that he has not mistaken his calling.

In our small schools, where the stimulus of numbers is wanting, a good deal of effort is required on the part of the teacher to keep every pupil up to the standard of healthful mental activity. The indifferent scholar must be studied as carefully as a case in court, and he requires as skillful handling to win success. One effective means of interesting pupils is oral teaching. This

method does not, as is commonly supposed, discard text-books, but rather demands such complete mastery of them in all their details, that while conducting a recitation the eye of the teacher is at liberty to discover any infringement of school regulations, and the hand free to elucidate by blackboard illustration the shadowy portions of the lesson. This is possible only when each lesson is carefully prepared by the teacher.

It is frequently stated that the school privileges are no greater than five years ago. What are the facts in the case? In 1885-86 the school in No. 1 was in session 24 weeks; in No. 2, 29 weeks; in No. 3, 26 weeks; and in No. 4, 10 weeks; the average length of the schools being 22 weeks. The average length of the two schools this year was 28 1-2 weeks, and the school in No. 2, now in session, is open to all pupils, affording 33 weeks, school as the minimum to which all have been *legally* entitled. The school work for the three terms is sufficient for the younger children, and the distance from No. 2 school is not great enough to prevent the attendance of any ambitious boy or girl of a dozen years desirous of making the most of educational advantages.

The teachers for the past year have conscientiously labored, with more or less success as they were fitted by natural gifts, scholarship, and successful experience to perform the arduous and exacting duties of their office. A firmer hand in some instances would have been decidedly beneficial. A general improvement is always expected; we speak only of specially creditable work. In No. 1, during the summer and fall terms, the pupils greatly benefited by the instruction in penmanship. In the winter, reading was made a study, and the rhetorical exercises at the close of the term were of a superior character; thoroughness characterized the school work. In No. 3, the school was under the instruction of the same teacher as last year, and the work went on in the same orderly manner. In the written exercises and language the improvement was very noticeable. The good instruction in No. 1 during the winter is continued in No. 2, and an interested school promises to repeat the success of the spring term of 1890.

The school books purchased by the town have been covered and various light repairs made as required. Again we call attention to the fact that cases for the text-books are desirable. There is no suitable place for them during vacation. The text-book record-books report the school books in good condition. The old series of arithmetics has given place to Fish's and Wentworth & Reed's works, and Reed & Kellogg's grammars have been purchased.

BENEFACCTIONS.

The benefaction of the Ladies' Social Library has been continued, and the librarian has kindly assisted in the distribution of the books. A work containing brief biographical sketches is the property of No. 3, through the thoughtfulness of Mr. F. L. Center. Temporary book-cases in No. 3 and a receptacle for the flag in No. 1 have been donated. Mr. I. N. Center gave his teaching services for one week in No. 1, and transported the pupil from No. 2 without charge. Miss Newell also carried the children to No. 3 gratuitously.

FLAGS.

The flame of patriotism burned brightly in early summer, and as a result two fine flags were secured through the liberality of citizens and friends. The interesting exercises at No. 3 on June 24, and at No. 1 on June 26, when the banners were flung to the breeze, will long remain a pleasant patriotic memory. The flags have been well cared for.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Three Terms.—Norman Lyon.

Two Terms.—Charles B. Campbell,* Willie Campbell.*

One Term.—Susie B. Whittemore, Clinton E. Leach, Waterman Lyon, Walter G. Daniels, Lizzie Center.*

*Tardy once, excused.

AUTHORIZED TEXT-BOOKS.

Swinton's Readers; Fish's, Wentworth & Reed's, and Colburn's Arithmetics; Harper's Geographies and Copy-books; Hyde's Language Lessons and Reed & Kellogg's Grammars; Monroe's Spellers; Ward's Business Forms.

STATISTICS.

No. of School.	TEACHERS.	No. of Weeks of School.	Wages of Teachers.	No. of Pupils.	Average Attendance.	No. in Reading and Spelling.	No. in Penmanship.	No. in Arithmetic.	No. in Geography.	No. in Language.	No. in History.	No. in Algebra.	No. in Composition.	No. in Drawing.	No. in Vocal Music.
1	Emma L. George.	8	\$28 00	12	11	12	12	12	7	9	2				12
1	Emma L. George.	8	28 00	10	8	10	10	10	4	5		2			10
1	Isaac N. Center.	11	40 00	17	14	16	16	16	14	15		3			
2	Isaac N. Center.	6	36 00	15	15	15	15	15	7	10	3	2	10		
3	Mary B. Newell.	10	30 00	18	17	18	18	18	9	8	1		13	16	
3	Mary B. Newell.	10	30 00	20	19	20	20	20	11	12	1		16	10	
3	Mary B. Newell.	10	30 00	13	12	13	13	13	9	7	1		10	10	

No. of visits by citizens and others, 144

No. of weeks of school, 63

No. of scholars, 38

M. W. GRIFFIN,

JOHN PARKER,

A. H. POWERS,

School Board.

LITCHFIELD, March 2, 1891.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

Received from N. C. Griffin, town		
treasurer,	\$586 08	
In treasury March 1, 1890,	76 90	
Total receipts,	<u> </u>	\$662 98

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid town of Hudson,		\$19 52
----------------------	--	---------

School No. 1 :

Teachers' wages,	\$212 85	
Repairs,	1 90	
Care of schoolhouse, etc.,	6 35	
Stove,	6 00	
Wood,	2 03	
Broom,	30	
Transportation of pupils,	3 30	
	<u> </u>	\$232 73

School No. 2 :

Teacher's wages,	\$45 00	
Care of schoolhouse, etc.,	1 00	
Wood,	1 35	
Painting schoolhouse,	14 50	
Cleaning schoolhouse,	50	
Shades,	4 50	
	<u> </u>	\$66 85

School No. 3 :

Teacher's wages,	\$225 00	
Care of schoolhouse,	2 65	
Repairing clock,	75	
Wood,	10 00	
Pail and broom,	50	
Repairs,	60	
	<u> </u>	\$239 50

Total disbursements,	<u> </u>	\$558 60
----------------------	-------------------	----------

Balance in treasury, Mar.

1, 1891,

\$104 38

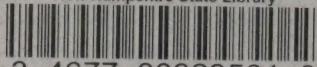
The expenses of the school now in session in No. 2
will diminish the surplus in treasury.

JOHN PARKER,

Treasurer of School Board.

LITCHFIELD, March 2, 1891.

New Hampshire State Library



3 4677 00329561 0